

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT TACOMA

DAVID TROUPE,

V.

DONNA SMITH, et al.,

Plaintiff,

No. C15-5671 RBL-KLS

## **REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION**

**Noted for: January 15, 2015**

## Defendants.

Before the Court is Plaintiff David Troupe’s “Motion to Compel and for Protective Order” (Dkt. 31), Motion for Order to Show Cause (Dkt. 32), and Motion for Protective Order (Dkt. 36). The motions seek injunctive relief. Having reviewed the motions, Defendants’ response (Dkt. 33), and balance of the record, the Court recommends that the motions should be denied.

## BACKGROUND

## A. Complaint

Plaintiff David Troupe filed this lawsuit on September 18, 2015. Dkt. 1. Plaintiff alleges that fifteen staff members, including Donna Smith and Edward Woods, at the Washington Corrections Center (WCC) violated his Eighth Amendment rights as to: (1) his placement in the WCC infirmary on August 2, 2014; (2) the video taping of him while he was in the infirmary; and (3) the treatment of an incident of self-harm on September 4, 2014. On November 16, 2015, the Defendants filed a motion for summary judgment that is currently noted for December 11, 2015. Dkt. 28.

1 On November 23, 2015, Plaintiff filed two motions: a “Motion to Compel & for  
2 Protective Order” and a “Motion and Order to Show Cause.” Dkts. 31 & 32. On December 21,  
3 2015, Plaintiff filed a “Motion for Protective Order.” Dkt. 36. In these motions, Plaintiff seeks  
4 injunctive relief, including ordering Defendants to (1) change his mental health treatment  
5 provider, (2) stop making him shower in the B-pod, and (3) allow Plaintiff the ability to send out  
6 legal mail every day.  
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8 Defendants contend that Plaintiff’s allegations are factually unsupported, he has not  
9 shown that he is entitled to injunctive relief, and that he seeks a preliminary injunction that is  
10 unrelated to the merits of the lawsuit. The Court finds it unnecessary to determine the merits of  
11 Plaintiff’s allegations as his motions may be denied on the basis that he seeks a preliminary  
12 injunction of conduct that is unrelated to the merits of the lawsuit. The Court also notes that  
13 Plaintiff does not appear to have exhausted these issues.  
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15 **C. Preliminary Injunction Relief Requested**

16 As noted, Mr. Troupe asks that the Court to order Defendants to change his mental health  
17 treatment provider, to stop making him shower in the B-pod, and to order Defendants to allow  
18 Plaintiff the ability to send out legal mail every day.  
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**DISCUSSION**

20 A preliminary injunction is an “extraordinary and drastic remedy” that is never awarded  
21 as of right. *Munaf v. Geren*, 553 U.S. 674, 689-90, 128 S. Ct. 2207, 2219 (2008) (citations and  
22 quotation omitted). Instead, the instant motion requires the court to “balance the competing  
23 claims of injury and ... the effect of the granting or withholding of the requested relief.” *Winter*  
24 *v. Natural Res. Def. Council*, 555 U.S. 7, 129 S. Ct. 365, 376 (2008) (quoting *Amoco Prod. Co.*  
25 *v. Gambell*, 480 U.S. 531, 542, 107 S. Ct. 1396 (1987)). A plaintiff seeking a preliminary  
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1 injunction must establish the following: (1) a likelihood of success on the merits, (2) a likelihood  
 2 of irreparable injury to the plaintiff if injunctive relief is not granted, (3) a balance of hardships  
 3 favoring the plaintiff, and (4) advancement of the public interest. *Id.* (citations omitted). This is  
 4 an “extraordinary remedy that may only be awarded upon a clear showing that the plaintiff is  
 5 entitled to such relief.” *Id.* at 376. Moreover, Plaintiff must show more than a mere  
 6 “possibility” of irreparable harm, but instead must “demonstrate that irreparable injury is likely  
 7 in the absence of an injunction.” *Id.* at 375 (emphasis and citations omitted).

9 In a civil rights case, injunctions must be granted sparingly and only in a clear and plain  
 10 case. Even in an action against private individuals, it has long been held that an injunction is “to  
 11 be used sparingly, and only in a clear and plain case.” When a plaintiff seeks to enjoin the  
 12 activity of a government agency, even within the unitary court system, his case must contend  
 13 with “the well-established rule that the government has traditionally been granted the widest  
 14 latitude in the dispatch of its own internal affairs.” *Rizzo v. Goode*, 423 U.S. 362, 378, 96 S.Ct.  
 15 598 (1976) (citations omitted). This holding applies even more strongly in cases involving the  
 16 administration of state prisons. *Turner v. Safley*, 482 U.S. 78, 85, 107 S.Ct. 2254 (1987).  
 17 “Running a prison is an inordinately difficult undertaking ... peculiarly within the province of the  
 18 legislative and executive branches of government ... [S]eparation of powers concerns counsel a  
 19 policy of judicial restraint. Where a state penal system is involved, federal courts have, as we  
 20 indicated in *Martinez*, additional reason to accord deference to appropriate prison authorities.”  
 21 *Id.* at 85, citing *Procunier v. Martinez*, 416 U.S. 396, 405, 94 S.Ct. 1800 (1974), *rev'd in part on*  
 22 *other grounds in Thornburgh v. Abbott*, 490 U.S. 401, 109 S.Ct. 1874 (1989).

25 Injunctive relief is to be used to address issues related to the underlying violations  
 26 presented in the complaint. See *Devose v. Herrington*, 42 F.3d 470, 471 (8th Cir.1994) (plaintiff

1 seeking injunctive relief must show “[a] relationship between the injury claimed in the party’s  
2 motion and the conduct asserted in the complaint.”); *see Little v. Jones*, 607 F.3d 1245, 1250–51  
3 (10th Cir .2010) (motion defined as insufficiently related to conduct addressed in complaint);  
4 *Colvin v. Caruso*, 605 F.3d 282, 299–300 (6th Cir.2010) (no preliminary injunction where  
5 motion for relief based on facts and circumstances entirely different from initial claim); *Omega*  
6 *World Travel, Inc. v. Trans World Airlines*, 111 F.3d 14, 16 (4th Cir.1997) (same). Further, a  
7 court need not consider claims that were not raised in the complaint. *McMichael v. Napa*  
8 *County*, 709 F.2d 1268, 1273 n. 4 (9th Cir.1983). As was explained by the Fourth Circuit in  
9 *Omega*, it is important that the movant establish the relationship between the injury claimed in  
10 his motion and the conduct asserted in the complaint because “[t]he purpose of interim equitable  
11 relief is to protect the movant, during the pendency of the action, from being harmed or further  
12 harmed in the manner in which the movant contends [he] was or will be harmed through the  
13 illegality alleged in the complaint.” *Omega*, 111 F.3d at 16.

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15 Here, Mr. Troupe seeks relief for conduct that is completely unrelated to the claims raised  
16 in his complaint. For that reason alone, his motions should be denied.

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18 **CONCLUSION**

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20 The undersigned recommends that Mr. Troupe’s motion to compel and for protective  
21 order and motion for order to show cause (Dkts. 31, 32, and 36) be **DENIED** because the  
22 motions seek injunctive relief that are not based upon the claims in the underlying suit.

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24 Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) and Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b), the parties shall have  
25 fourteen (14) days from service of this Report to file written objections. See also Fed. R. Civ. P.  
26 6. Failure to file objections will result in a waiver of those objections for purposes of appeal.

1 *Thomas v. Arn*, 474 U.S. 140 (1985). Accommodating the time limit imposed by Rule 72(b), the  
2 Clerk is directed to set the matter for consideration on **January 15, 2016**, as noted in the caption.

3 **DATED** this 29<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015.

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Karen L. Strombom  
United States Magistrate Judge